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ZOOLOGY.—*Notes on a small collection of reptiles and amphibians from Tabasco, México.*[1] HOBART M. SMITH. (Communicated by HERBERT FRIEDMANN.)

Walter A. Weber, of the U. S. National Museum, naturalist to the Fifth National Geographic Society–Smithsonian Institution Expedition to southern México, under the leadership of Matthew W. Stirling, collected a small series of reptiles and amphibians near the base camp at La Venta, Tabasco. The material, now a part of the collections of the U. S. National Museum, was obtained in March and April, 1943. It was made available to me for study through the courtesy of Dr. Alexander Wetmore. It contains 12 specimens of nine species, five of which have not previously been recorded from the state of Tabasco, while one has not been collected for more than 50 years

[1] Received January 11, 1944.

and is among the great rarities of the Mexican herpetofauna.

La Venta is a heavily forested island about 4 miles across by 1½ miles wide located in the coastal swamps near the mouth of the Tonalá River, in the angle formed by the junction of that stream with the Río Blasillo. This point is about 15 miles inland to the southeast of the town of Tonalá on the Gulf coast.

Eleutherodactylus rhodopis (Cope)

A single specimen (U.S.N.M. 117556) was obtained on April 7. It is half grown and measures 25.3 mm from snout to vent. The markings and pattern of ridges are typical of the Atlantic coast specimens of the species.

This species has not previously been recorded from the state of Tabasco, although its existence there has been indicated by records from adjacent areas.

Agalychnis callidryas (Cope)

Two specimens (U.S.N.M. 117557–117558) were collected on March 24. They are immature, measuring 24 mm from snout to vent. The diagonal lateral cream lines are clearly evident in each. One is bright purple above, while the other has a strong gray suffusion nearly obliterating the purple color.

There are no records of this species in the literature for the state of Tabasco.

Anolis bourgaei Bocourt

A single specimen (U.S.N.M. 117348) is referred to this species, following the nomenclature proposed by Schmidt (Publ. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 22: 491. 1941). It is a subadult male, with lateral light stripes.

The species has not previously been recorded from Tabasco.

Laemanctus deborrei Boulenger

One of the most valuable items secured is a specimen (U.S.N.M. 117349), collected on April 12, that proves to be the second known from México (the type is from "Tabasco") and perhaps the only one of the species in any American museum. It is a fine adult female carrying five eggs that average 26 by 15 mm in size. The snout-vent length is 120 mm, the tail 458 mm, the snout-occiput length (measured along the flat dorsal surface of the head) 41 mm.

The scales on the snout are not, or scarcely, larger than those in the occipital region; no prominently projecting scales on posterior edge of occiput; dorsal head scales strongly rugose, lateral head scales weakly rugose; about six canthals, the anterior in contact with first supralabial; one prenasal between first canthal and nasal; latter in contact with canthal series above and with supralabials (second and third) below; numerous loreal scales, a maximum of four in a vertical row from loreals to supralabials; five or six small suboculars, three or four in contact with supralabials; lores sloping *inward* slightly, as viewed from above; 11–12 supralabials; 11–11 infralabials; mental half as wide as rostral; gular scales weakly polycarinate, 21 in a row from mental to gular fold. Scales around middle of body 48; nape scales (sides and back) smooth; middorsal scales rather strongly keeled, especially just back of nape; paravertebral scales feebly polycarinate, becoming smooth in dorsolateral region; lateral scales feebly uni-, bi-, or tricarinate; belly scales rather strongly unicarinate. Dorsal scales on forelimb bi- or tricarinate, those on hindlimb (except foot) unicarinate; ventral limb scales unicarinate. Tail scales unicarinate, feebly above, strongly below. One of the most curious features in the scutellation of the species is the absence of keels on the subdigital lamellae—a character common to practically all iguanids. In their stead is a very curious, swollen, yellow or dark-brown knob in the middle of each lamella at its distal (free) edge. I know of no similar feature in other genera of iguanids, although it may occur in the related *Corythophanes*.

The coloration in life may well be much different from that seen in preserved specimens. Where the scales have been lost, the color is of various shades of purple; nine rather poorly defined, subrectangular, dark yellow spots about four scale rows wide form a vertebral series on the body, continuing dimly on the tail; the rest of the dorsal surfaces are of a dark wine color, the ventral surface a curious, striking, bright yellowish purple. The head is yellowish brown above and on the sides has scattered, purplish, greenish and yellowish

areas blending into one another. The posterior edges of the occipital shelf are black.

Ameiva undulata stuarti Smith

A single specimen (U.S.N.M. 117350) is apparently typical of this subspecies. The median gulars are in a single row, the largest larger than any mesoptychial or preanal; the preanals are in two rows; the femoral pores are 21–21, and the subdigital lamellae of the fourth toe are 30–32.

Apparently there is no previous record of the occurrence of this widely distributed species in Tabasco.

Ninia sebae sebae (Duméril and Bibron)

Three specimens (U.S.N.M. 117352–117354) were collected April 3 to 7. Respectively these have 138(♂), 133(♀), 134(♂) ventrals; 53, 44, 50 caudals; 6–6, 7–7, 7–7 infralabials; and 1–1, 2–2, 2–2 postoculars. The supralabials are 7–7 in all, temporals 1–2–3. The number of caudals in all three is less than is typical of *s. sebae*, with a total range of caudals from 51 to 71 in males and 40 to 60 in females; most males have over 54, most females over 45. In this character the specimens approach *s. morleyi*, in which the males usually have less than 54 (range 44 to 54), the females usually less than 45 (38 to 46). The three can not be referred to *s. morleyi*, however, for the known minimum ventral count for that race is 143 in females, 137 in males. It is not unreasonable to assume that the Tabasco specimens represent an intergrading population that still retains greater affinities to *s. sebae*.

Pliocercus elapoides elapoides Cope

A single specimen (U.S.N.M. 117351) of this subspecies, collected on April 17, is of considerable interest, since it represents an area from which the species is otherwise unknown. It is a female measuring 234 mm in total length, the tail 89 mm. The ventrals number 130, the caudals 97; supralabials 8–8; infralabials 9–9; preoculars and postoculars 2–2; temporals 1–1. The outer rings of each triad of black rings are much broader than the yellow rings; 12 primary black rings are on the body, 10 on the tail; and five of the anterior six black rings are incomplete ventrally.

The broad, secondary black rings, 9–9 infralabials, and 130 ventrals are characters that conclusively allocate this specimen with the typical race, although all other known specimens from Tabasco are clearly referable to *e. laticollaris*. The incomplete black rings, however, demonstrate an approach toward *e. laticollaris*. The Tabasco localities for the latter race (Macuspana, Teapa, Tenosique) are in the central and western part of the state and, moreover, are in or very near the foothills of the Atlantic escarpment. Intergradation between these two races is indicated for the area between La Venta, in extreme western Tabasco near the coast, and Teapa, located near the foothills of central southern Tabasco. Fairly typical *e. elapoides* may occur much farther eastward, however, near the coast.

As implied above, this specimen affords the first record of the occurrence of *e. elapoides* in Tabasco.

Coniophanes fissidens fissidens (Günther)

A male (U.S.N.M. 117555), collected on April 2, has 21–17 scale rows, 117 ventrals, incomplete tail, and 8–8 supralabials. The median border of the dorsolateral light stripes is indistinct in front of the anus, and the light stripes are visible on the neck. A dark spot near the end of each ventral is somewhat larger than other, scattered, black flecks. Though showing an approach toward *f. proterops*, especially in ventral markings, the specimen is clearly most like *f. fissidens*. It is noteworthy that La Venta specimens of this species show southern (eastern) affinities, while those of *Pliocercus* show northern (western) affinities.

Bothrops atrox (Linnaeus)

A single specimen (U.S.N.M. 117355) was collected on April 7. It is a half-grown female with 210 ventrals, 61 caudals, and 25–27–21 scale rows.